

The Hongkong Telegraph

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1947.

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Russia Menacing France

Do Gaulle's Warning

Paris, Nov. 12.—General Charles de Gaulle, leader of the anti-Communist Rally of the French People, declared today that France was menaced by Russia—"an enormous power more fearful than any in European power history, including Hitler's Reich."

Speaking at his first press conference since the founding of his movement last April, General de Gaulle compared its success in the recent municipal elections with a tidal wave which would engulf the whole of France.

"Much is said about two camps—the Soviet and the American," he declared. Then, raising his voice to a shout, he cried: "There is a third camp—France."

"France is the country perhaps most menaced in the world."

"From the outside, she is menaced by an enormous power more fearful than any in European power history, including Hitler's Reich. This power is more fearful because, in addition to its own strength, it has groups of supporters inside our country."

General de Gaulle said that Franco-American co-operation through the Marshall plan for aid to Europe should be viewed as a common defence against a common menace.

WAR IS POSSIBLE

Later he asserted: "War is possible. That is saying enough."

Speaking of the possibility of outlawing the French Communist Party, General de Gaulle said that the measures which should be taken by the French Government would depend on the actions of the Communists and not those of the Government.

"I do not believe that the feeling of this country is directed towards violence," he said when asked if he thought France was heading towards a civil war.

"But if this misfortune should overtake us, the law must remain supreme."

He strongly supported a federated Germany. "Germany must be associated in the common effort of humanity to build Europe and the world. But it is unthinkable to allow Germany to gain to become a power, unified and organized around a central government which would inevitably tend to expand by force."

Four Killed In Gun Battle

Jerusalem, Nov. 12.—Three Jewish girls and youth were killed today in a gun battle with British troops surrounding a coastal plain house, suspected of being an underground Irgun Zvai Leumi hideout. Two other young Jews were wounded in the encounter.

Military sources at Tel Aviv said 11 Jews were captured in a raid on the isolated house where the Army was conducting "armed exercises."

EDITORIAL

An Injudicious Strike

THE strike weapon is again being used indiscriminately and injudiciously by trade union leaders in Hongkong. Without any justification, nearly 300 employees of the Fisheries Marketing Section have followed the advice of their Union and walked out of service. The employees of many leading hotels and restaurants are threatening to take similar action, and presumably will do so unless somebody can convince them of the stupidity of such a move. So far as the fish market workers are concerned, Government has followed the only logical course and has given the strikers 24 hours in which to return to work, or see their jobs filled by others. The fisheries employees have no legitimate grievance and clearly have allowed themselves to become the pawns of agitators who seek to impose their will. Government would invite the criticism of the public even to parley with them. It has been observed before, and must be repeated, that union leaders carry responsibilities which cannot be treated lightly. It is a violation of their position of trust to imagine grievances and think up fancy

Dalton Presents Anti-Inflationary Autumn Budget

INCREASED LUXURY TAXES

London, Nov. 12.—Luxuries rather than necessities are hit by the emergency anti-inflation budget announced in Parliament tonight by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Dalton, when he introduced big new taxes on gambling on football matches and dog races, raised the taxes on spirits and wines and boosted the taxes on goods bought in the shops—in some cases by as much as 50 per cent.

All this is interpreted by trade unionists as a move to make it easier for them voluntarily to stop demands for high wages during the present crisis.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer estimated an additional yield of new taxes of £208,000,000 in a full year, while cuts of £200,000,000 in capital expenditure have already been announced, but, in some financial quarters, the new measures were being openly described as hopelessly inadequate.

This special crisis budget, to prevent inflationary pressure which might follow the Government's efforts to raise exports at the expense of the home market, featured, however, no change in the income tax. Mr Dalton said that during the winter months he would examine the alternatives to the present system of collection to readjust and lighten the taxpayers' burden.

Food subsidies estimated in the last budget in April to total £302,000,000 would be found, but further increases would not be possible.

Mr Dalton announced the doubling of the profits tax on all profits as from January 1—an increase from 12-1/2 per cent to 25 per cent on distributed profits and five to 10 per cent on anticipated profits.

There would be no increase in the tobacco duty. In the last budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer raised the price of cigarettes to 3/4d for 20, and there had been apprehension that he might raise the duty further.

Mr Dalton stated that there would be an increase of one penny per pint

on beer of "average latterday" strength and proportionately on stronger brew.

The articles already placed on the free list would not be placed on the purchase tax list, but those on the purchase tax list rates of taxes would be raised as follows: 16-2/3 tax to 33-1/3 and 33-1/3 to 50 per cent, 60-2/3 tax to 70 per cent, and 100 tax to 125 per cent.

Duties on heavy wines would be raised by 10/- a gallon and on light wines by 5/- a gallon. There would be a corresponding rise on British wines.

Impost On Greyhound Betting

A tax of 10 percent would be imposed on greyhound betting by the totalisator, but none on horse racing. Football pools would be subject to a tax of 10 percent.

Duties on whisky, rum and other spirits would be raised by £113.4 a proof gallon. This meant that the price of a bottle of whisky of standard brand bought outside the blackmarket would go up to about 30/- compared with 25/-.

The betting tax will come into force in January 4, next and was expected to yield £15,000,000 in a full year.

The new taxes generally should bring in £48,000,000 this financial year, which ends in April, and a sum of £208,000,000 in a full financial year.

Amid Labour cheers, Mr Dalton said that he had had second thoughts about betting since his last budget. There was a need to fortify the revenue and prevent misuse of resources.

There had been a great increase in the tote turnover, especially dog totes, representing a large proportion of total expenditure.

A tax of 10 per cent would be placed on all money wagered on dog totes and would be deducted and paid over by the proprietors, but there would be no levy of this kind on horse totes for racecourses, which were not for private profit and an improvement of horsebreeding resulted in the export.

Football pools, he declared, had grown to most formidable dimensions, absorbing far too much labour.

There would be brought under the new betting duty in the same way as dog totes—10 per cent.

Mr Dalton added: "Not only will the taxes bring in additional financial revenue and so diminish inflationary pressure, but they will curtail various forms of expenditure which we cannot afford in this time of emergency."

On the duties on British wines, Mr Dalton stated that the duties would rise correspondingly by 10/- on the heavy varieties and 5/- on the lighter types.

He also promised, as from tomorrow to raise the duty on beer by the equivalent of one penny a pint on beer of "average latterday" strength, which evoked laughter, and proportionately more on stronger brew "if there be any still."

MINIMUM BUDGET

Reuter's financial editor writes: The autumn budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Dalton, might be described as a minimum budget—a minimum in the sense that it is a situation which could possibly be regarded as requiring minimum fiscal changes that would justify solemnity as a British budget day.

Within his self-imposed limits, the Chancellor set out only to absorb the "additional" inflationary pressure created by import cuts and intensified exports.

But Mr Dalton detected "some signs" that inflationary pressure has been relaxed in recent weeks. Accordingly he foreshadowed that, unlike recent years, no increase would be required in the "fiduciary issue" (authorised maximum circulation of banknotes) for Christmas, and after Christmas he hoped to reduce it for the first time since the outbreak of the war.

Within the limits of the Treasury's own accountancy, this is, of course, an extremely strong budget. Even without additional taxes, the Chancellor of the Exchequer disclosed that budgetary surplus is already unprecedented for the time of the war.

Controversy has all along raged and will continue to rage, not on that point, but on whether it is adequate for the country's general economic situation.

"HOPELESSLY INADEQUATE" Many serious economists and financial writers were tonight openly describing the budget as "hopelessly inadequate."

The absence of any cuts in expenditure, other than those already announced, drew particularly adverse comment. The crux of these was food subsidies which have

reached the crushing level of £392,000,000 a year.

Since it was economically imperative to reduce these, and politically impossible to do so, the Chancellor of the Exchequer took the obvious and expected course of "binding" them at their present level.

Any further increase in food prices will be passed on to consumers instead of being absorbed by a further increase in subsidies. And subsidies on leather, cotton and wool, costing £33,000,000 a year, will disappear.

Since the additional taxes are reckoned to raise only £48,000,000 for the remainder of this fiscal year (up to the end of March) and since the cuts in capital expenditure are also being applied only gradually, the immediate anti-inflationary effect is clearly small.

This might be criticised as inadequate.

Contrary to very confident prediction, the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not take the opportunity to deny the recent rumours about exchange rates. He did not mention the subject at all.

Almost his only reference to foreign exchange difficulties was when he said that the shortage of dollars is now much more serious than it was last April, when he raised the tobacco tax to save dollars, and that nobody can tell how long it will be before Britain can restart buying American tobacco.

Yesterday, however, when asked whether he would "unpeg" exchange rates and let the sterling find its own level, he answered "No."

Vice-Regal Visit To Canton

It is officially announced that His Excellency the Governor and Lady Grantham will visit Canton by air on Friday, November 21, to see Dr T. V. Soong, Governor of Kwangtung. They will lunch with Dr Soong and return to Hongkong the same day.

THE PAY-OFF IS NOTHING

Washington, Nov. 12.—The Commerce Department revealed today that Russia and her satellites will get no part of the 12,000,000 barrels of gasoline and other petroleum products that the United States will ship to foreign countries during the remainder of the year because they refused to answer questions about their domestic production and consumption.

The allocations included 40,000 barrels of aviation gasoline, 300,000 motor gasoline, 200,000 kerosene, 64,550 gas and distillate and 100,000 fuel oil for China.—United Press.

AIR LINER DRAMA

Poole, England, Nov. 12.—A British Overseas Airways flying boat, bucking a 70-mph head wind, sent distress signals today after one engine failed but a crash was averted when the ship reached Poole safely.

The plane was flying in torrential rain and heavy winds which swept Wales and Yorkshire and other parts of England during last night and today. At 1137 the flying boat radioed Poole, "Starboard inner engine has failed." Five minutes later, she radioed again, "Port inner engine has failed."

Messages were immediately sent out to sea rescue craft on the south coast but the plane reached Poole in safety under its own power.—United Press.

40-Year Disarmament Treaty Demand

ANGLO-FRENCH BACKING FOR U.S.

London, Nov. 12.—Great Britain and France today demanded that the American proposal for a 40-year treaty on disarmament and demilitarisation of Germany be placed before the forthcoming meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Council.

The treaty proposal, first advanced by the former Secretary of State, Mr James Byrnes, was included in the British and French draft agendas for the CFM which were introduced at today's meeting of the Foreign Ministers' deputies here.

The British deputy, Mr Patrick Dean, said, "His Majesty's Government feels that conclusion of such a treaty is of the utmost importance and probably the best guarantee that Germany never again will become a menace to the world."

The French deputy, Jacques Hardouin, said the American treaty proposal was "one of the most important aspects of the question of security for Europe." He urged that it be considered jointly with the French proposals for the establishment of separate regimes in the Ruhr and the Rhineland.

SOVIETS WILL SAY NO An American spokesman said strong Soviet opposition to the treaty proposal was expected. It was not included in the Soviet draft agenda for the CFM submitted yesterday.

The United States, United Kingdom and France argued today that the Austrian treaty be settled before the German problem at the forthcoming Big Four meeting.

Russia's Mr Smirnov insisted that the Austrian treaty be the last item of the Big Four agenda.

The decision was deferred until tomorrow, when the United States' Robert Murphy will present the United States' detailed proposal on the agenda.

THREE MAIN POINTS Presenting the British proposal on the agenda for the Big Four meeting, Mr Patrick Dean said: "The Austrian treaty can and must be settled before the German problem."

The second point of the proposed agenda should deal with economic principles pertaining to Germany—level of industry and reparations, including Saar problems. The third point is to deal with form and structure of the provisional German government.

The United Kingdom proposal did not take the frontier question, which might, however, be linked at a later stage with security aspects, Mr Dean added.

The French proposal for the agenda of the Big Four meeting suggested that discussion on Germany open with consideration of the German frontiers, to be followed by that of economic principles, putting procedural questions at the tail of the agenda.

Mr Murphy, supporting the British and French proposals for putting the Austrian treaty on the top of the Big Four agenda, argued that it had been agreed Austria should be treated as a liberated country but after two years she was still without a peace treaty.

Russia contested the Western stand with the argument that the Big Four meeting was designed chiefly to consider the German problem, wherefore Austria should be discussed only at the end of the meeting.—United Press.

Boaton To Death

Guam, Nov. 12.—Pfc Herbert Oliver, of the 1st Marine Brigade, was beaten to death on Saturday night in a fight between two Marines and 20 Filipino labourers in a tavern, the Navy said today. Four Filipinos are being held by the Guam police.—Associated Press.

Songgram Asks Siamese King To Return

Bangkok, Nov. 12.—Prince Chakraphan Pensiri will fly to Switzerland on Friday to invite 19-year-old King Phumiphon Aduldet to return immediately and assume the Siamese throne.

An announcement said the Prince was making the trip at the behest of Field Marshal Phibun Songgram, Siam's new strongman who overthrew the government on Sunday.

(Prasert Maitri, private secretary to the King, said in Lausanne, Switzerland, it was too early to say whether the King would agree to return to Siam immediately. A dispatch from Saigon quoted the help of radio and press of the Viet Nam Republic which is battling the French in the colony for autonomy, as praising the new Siamese government as a "defender of liberties of oppressed peoples," ready to support the Viet Nam and create a second front on the Siamese frontier.)

There was increasing evidence, meanwhile, that Sunday's bloodless coup was achieved by a military and Royalist party alliance aimed at ousting the so-called People's Party, which has been accused of extreme corruption.

Informed observers believe Songgram would not have dared the coup in the face of foreign opposition without the help of the Royalists. The question being asked by most Siamese was whether Songgram would step aside in the event the King returns from Lausanne. They expect this question to be answered soon with the appointment of 90 new members of the Senate, as provided in the new constitution.

If Songgram puts his own adherents in control of the Senate, observers believe Aphaawongse will quit as premier.—Associated Press.

Playboy Peers Immune

London, Nov. 12.—Playboy peers will escape Britain's first peacetime industrial conscription after all.

A high government source said today that most peers could avoid registration in the industrial draft by claiming Parliamentary immunity as Members of the House of Lords.

Labour Ministry officials subsequently conceded they had erred when they ruled yesterday that all peers "not gainfully employed" would come under the new decrees designed to draw labour for essential industries, particularly agriculture, textiles and coal mining.

Nearly 600 peers are eligible to sit in the House of Lords, but seldom more than 100 appear at a session. Only Irish peers and a limited number of Scottish peers are ineligible for the Upper House and thus might come under the new decree.—United Press.

Wales Beat Scotland 2-1 At Hampden Park

Glasgow, Nov. 12.—A great crowd of over 70,000 saw Wales score a deserved two to one win over Scotland in the International soccer match at Hampden Park Stadium here today.

All the goals came in the first half.

It was the first Welsh victory on this ground and it took them into third place in the International championship table.

Scotland have yet to score in the competition, while England and Ireland share the lead each with three points.

Scotland opened the scoring in the ninth minute when, catching the Welsh defence right out of position, the right-winger Gordon Smith, sent over a perfect centre for his inside partner, McLaren, to head the ball into the far corner of the net.

Gradually Wales gained the supremacy and following an attack the centre-forward Ford ran the ball through from close range to equalise in the 37th minute.

Just on the interval, the inside left, Lawrie, drove home what proved to be the winning goal with a great shot from 30 yards. Although the Welsh forwards continued to press strongly after the interval, the Scottish defence held.—Reuter.

SWEDEN'S TEAM Stockholm, Nov. 12.—Sweden's team to meet England in the International soccer match at Highbury, London, on November 19, was announced today as follows:

Tarsten Lindberg, Knut Nordahl, Nilsson, Andersson, Bertil Nordahl, Krossen, Malmstrom, Gunnar Green, Gunnar Nordahl, Nils Liedholm, Nystram.

The team which consists wholly of amateurs, gathered at Halandas, near Gothenburg today for special training.

The remarkable feature of the teams is that three brothers, Nordahl, have gained a re-election. Their most difficult task will probably fall to Bertil who will be opposed to Tommy Lawton.

The average age of the side is 28, the oldest being Nilsson and Malmstrom (39 and 35 respectively). They have 125 International caps between them.—Reuter.

RUGBY RESULTS London, Nov. 12.—The Rugby League results are as follows: Leeds 16; New Zealand Tourists 23; County Championship: Lancashire 22; Yorkshire 10. The Rugby Union results are as follows: County Championship: Middlesex 26; Oxfordshire 8; Eastern Counties 11; Surrey 9; Sussex 8; Berkshire 18; Club Matches: Guy's Hospital 16; Cambridge University 17; United Services Portsmouth 17; Royal Naval College Greenwich 13.—Reuter.

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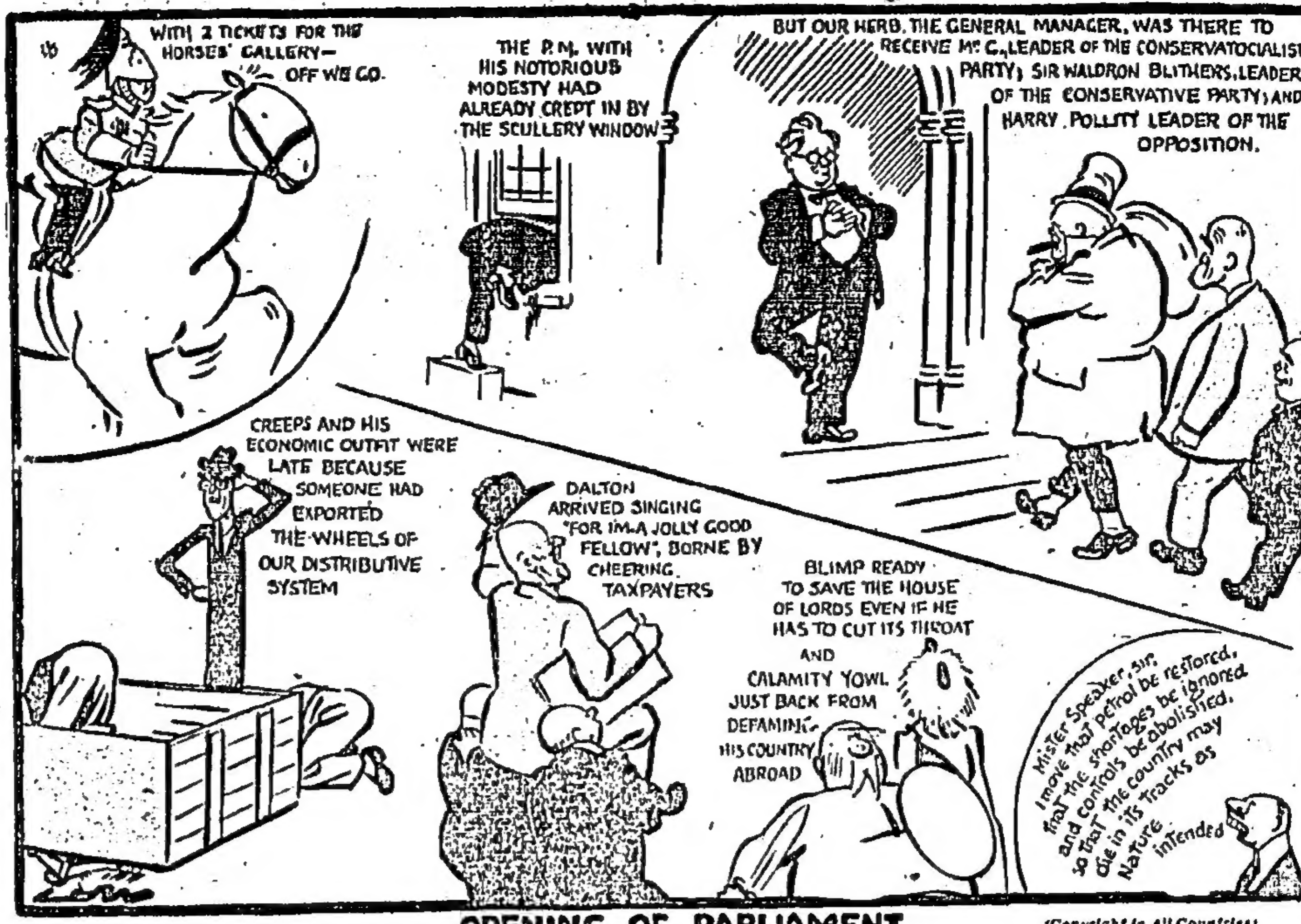


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The Valley of Decision

with Donald CRISP • Lionel BARRYMORE • Preston FOSTER • Marsha HUNT



OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT MONTGOMERY talks on the human problem of making an army victorious in war

IS THIS THE WAY TO WIN THE ALAMEIN OF PEACE?

by

JOHN GORDON

I BELIEVE we are at the beginning of what the Elizabethans called "a stir over England."

I think we are about to make another of those sudden fateful changes—which so often in our history have demonstrated to all the world that we are an unconquerable people no matter how heavy the blows Fate may rain upon us.

Why do I believe that? For no better reason than that there is a feel of it in the air. If you are sensitive to public emotions, you cannot escape it.

For some days I have been motor-ing slowly through the lovely by-ways of England from the North to the South.

I have talked with a wide variety of people in a wide variety of places. I have listened to the talk in the little village inns where the real heart of England beats, and in the spacious, though now rather empty, majestic hotels.

The accents and the words may differ somewhat, except perhaps in vigor and strength, but the same note runs through all the talk. England is stirring again. Change is coming.

There is a realization that we have made grievous mistakes; a determination that we must now prepare to unmake them.

A meeting at end of a journey

Where have we gone wrong? I gather from the quite surprising unanimity with which certain views were expressed in almost every conversation that the country is forming definite opinions on that point, opinions into which I do not propose to enter more deeply at this moment.

But how must we change? What must we change? What is the cure that will set us on the road to health and strength again?

I was seeking in my mind the answer to these questions, turning over and over again all I had heard of the talk around me, when towards the end of the journey I found myself unexpectedly with Field-Marshal Montgomery. We talked of the now legendary battle of El Alamein.

We spoke of that tremendous day when this strange tingling mystic of a general plummeted to the desert from the clouds like a new Moses into the midst of a shaken, despondent army which had little hope of life and less of victory.

The great story is told again

It is history now how in a matter of hours Montgomery electrified that army.

How in a matter of days he imbued it with a confidence that was eventually to make it one of the greatest armies of all time.

How in three weeks he was able to hurl it at Rommel in the first of those shattering blows which in due time, in Montgomery's memorable phrase, "bit him for six."

Now how did Montgomery achieve that miraculous transformation? Quite suddenly, as he retold the old story in that quiet but sure and emphatic way of his, I saw that in the days before Alamein, there was the answer to the problem of Britain's recovery for which my mind was searching.

First get your army right

"A battle," Montgomery said, "is won before you fight it. First you decide how it is to be fought. Then you plan how it will be fought your way and not the enemy's."

"But the key to everything is your army."

"You must, before battle, get your army right. You can have all the men you calculate to be necessary, you can have a thousand guns and two thousand tanks, you can have all the equipment and all the supply lines you desire, but still lack the most vital quality, the only quality, indeed, that will give you certain victory."

"What is that quality?"

"It would describe it," the Field-Marshal went on, "simply as the human touch."

"In a speech I made once I said that making an army was not merely a matter of supplies, as so many people think, but a holistic problem. Nobody seemed to understand what that meant."

"Do you know what holism means? It means that the whole of an organisation is something infinitely greater than merely the sum of its constituent parts."

"In simpler words an army has to be given a soul. The giving to it of a soul is not an equipment problem, but a human problem."

Give men pride in their jobs

"Therefore, of all the urgent problems I had to tackle when I assumed command of the Eighth Army, the first was to give each individual man in it pride in his job, confidence in himself and his leaders, an understanding of what he was being called upon to do, and why, and a certainty of victory."

"So I put the problems of supply and equipment second. I went first for the minds of the men."

"I chose as my key officers men who understood that human problem and shared my convictions about it."

"Then I made it my business to see, and speak to, every individual man in the Eighth Army, as I later saw and talked to every man who

was to take part in the invasion of Normandy."

"I told them simply, frankly, and fully the job ahead of them. I explained how it was to be done, and why. I left them in no doubt about the certainty of their victory, because I had none myself."

"When I knew that I had secured their full confidence, I knew the battle was won, although it had not begun."

"Now, however, meticulously you plan a battle you must at all times be prepared for fluctuations of fortune, both good and bad. To meet them your army must be a flexible machine."

"So when I had put the human problem right, I then made flexibility my second objective."

Freedom within the general plan

"To attain flexibility in a vast machine like an army, you must give all possible freedom and initiative to every officer, and, indeed, even to every lance-corporal, subject only to the broad general plan, which must be thoroughly understood by every officer and man before the battle begins."

"You cannot obviously have people running off at tangents and endangering the entire tactical plan of the battle."

"But you must make every man, however small his responsibilities may be in relation to the whole battle, as free as possible to use his initiative to seize an opportunity or to meet an emergency."

"It all boils down to the human problem of drawing the best out of every man by getting his mind right before the battle starts."

"It seems to me to be in every phase of life."

"Whether you run a vast national business, or even only two servants in your house—if it is possible to have two servants at all these days— isn't the real secret of success simply this:

"First, to secure the confidence of those you are directing;

"Secondly, to give them understanding;

"Thirdly, not to cramp all freedom so that they become just cogs in a machine, but to encourage them to use their initiative at all times so that, instead of being merely routine workers at a job the final purpose of which they may only vaguely understand, they make them eager, proud, intelligent collaborators in a common effort?"

"As I listened to the Field-Marshal, I thought—Isn't that the secret we are seeking in Britain today? I think it is."

Take the points he makes about Alamein. Apply them to the national problem. They fit like a glove.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

"GIRLS," writes one of those human light-houses who flash their warnings to the young, "girls should never trust a man who tries to ingratiate himself with them at short notice."

Oh, girls, you all know the type. He pays your tram-fare with a leer, and before you know where you are he has told you that he was in the cavalry and has offered you a dried-egg-flip-sundae (with syrup). "I do not accept meals from strangers," you say, with downcast eyes. "Surely I'm not a stranger," says he softly, adding—"Mabel." My name is Miss Truscott," you reply with a cold glance, "and here is the penny you paid for my tram ticket." Ha! That knocks him out! Well, done, my dear! Now, home to Ma, before another of them starts to do his stuff.

'Tibetan Moonflower' (XXII.)

THE briefest study of the document showed our two heroes that they had exchanged 76,432 waterproof typewriter covers for a yak-farm attached to the Monastery of Panga Lul, a free pass for the Dung Odeon, and a snapshot of Dingli-Poos opening a bazaar at Fong-Mo. The two officials sat staring in front of them in gloomy silence. Presently Egham said, "It's monstrous. I'll never trust her again." "It was her beauty that made us blind," said Mince. "Don't talk bosh," said Egham, "it was her brandy." "I suppose she'll marry that land-owner—or the merchant," said Mince. "That's out of the question," said the pilot, who so far had not spoken a word. "And what do you know about it?" asked Egham with withering scorn. "I'm her husband," replied the sulky pilot.

"Far away in Dung, Dingli-Poos laughed her low, gurgling laugh (like the Ganges coming out of a gorge, as an Indian Prince had once said to her).

"Now," she said to Moompl, "we've got rid of my husband and the two boobies. When we've disposed of the land-owner and the merchant you may show in that charming Nepalese gentleman farmer." (THE END)

Freedom for prisoners

"I HAVE nothing but praise," said Mrs. Welch, "for the campaign to educate the German prisoners in freedom and democracy by allowing them to ride in buses, go to films, and attend lectures on freedom and democracy."

STARS LEAD WEDDING INVASION

On November 18 the Queen Mary lands with more film stars than have ever invaded Britain at one time. They are going to see the Royal wedding. Maharajahs are flying to Britain. Large parties are crossing from Belgium and Switzerland. Two boatloads of visitors from Sweden will anchor in the Thames.

There will be at least ten royal personages from the Continent of Europe.

Setting the spirit of the grand occasion, all London's leading hotels have planned gala nights. The Savoy has created a "Wedding Bell" cocktail. The May Fair, popular with big industrialists from the north, has a £3-a-head dinner and dance with champagne and brandy thrown in.

Women guests at the Abbey will banish austerity for the day. Many have chosen to wear almost ankle-length frocks in crimson, claret, midnight blue, and purple.

Prices For Seats

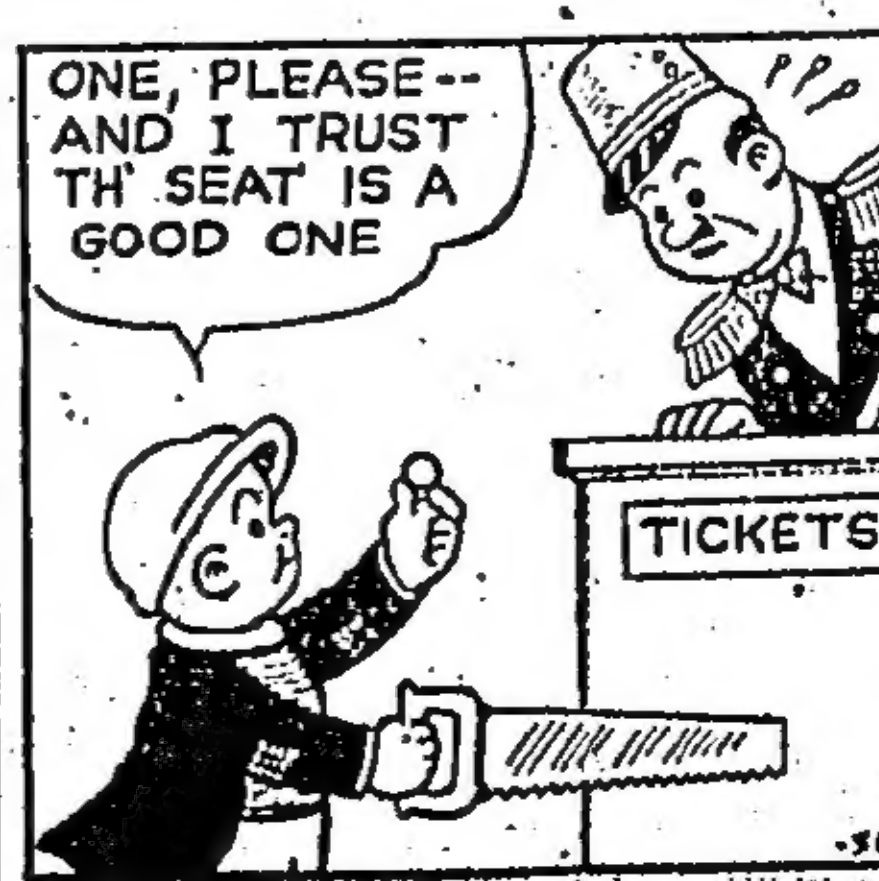
Fewer than 1,000 windows overlook the route, so even the privileged or the moneyed will have scant chance to pay homage in comfort, although the offers for seats from 12 guineas to £75 have never ceased.

At its Princess's brightest hour the populace of Britain wants to go jinking. But the Government's damping-down orders have confused both the London County Council and Westminster City Council, within whose domain lies the procession. Neither authority can give a lead.

Yet indications are that London will wear a smiling face throughout Royal Wedding Week.

Both Regent-street and Bond-street shopkeepers' associations are planning their own bunting and floral tributes regardless of gloom. Flags will fly everywhere.

NANCY Nothing Like Being Prepared



By Ernie Bushmiller



British Farmers Start Sowing

London, Nov. 12.—Farmers in England are preparing to start ploughing operations and sowing their winter wheat. For weeks these tasks have been held up on many farms by the hard state of the ground, but some hours of continuous rain has brought a big improvement in the position. In some districts the men have volunteered to work through their meal times in an attempt to catch up on lost time.—Reuter.

Auchinleck And Men To Quit India

New Delhi, Nov. 12.—The Joint Defence Council of India and Pakistan announced today that the recent decision to dissolve British Supreme Headquarters on November 30 was based on "the absence of the necessary spirit of goodwill and co-operation" between the two new Dominions.

Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck and all other officers and soldiers of all ranks in the Headquarters will be withdrawn, the Council's announcement said. Officers, soldiers and their families, numbering about 18,000, will be repatriated by the end of February.

The Headquarters originally was scheduled to remain until April 30, 1948, to complete reconstitution of the armed forces of Pakistan and India. The announcement today said Field Marshal Auchinleck had recommended the earlier dissolution because it was becoming impossible for him and his officers to discharge their tasks.

The Joint Council's communiqué said the Indian Government felt continuance of the Headquarters was unnecessary, while the Pakistan Government was "equally insistent on the need for retaining it."—Associated Press.

FREIGHTER AFIRE

Manila, Nov. 12.—The Dutch freighter Alpherat radioed that she was on fire but in no immediate danger, 150 miles southwest of Hongkong. She reported she was making five knots and in communication with the steamer Chama, but could not understand the Chama's language. She is the former American ship Wharton Victory, gross tonnage 7,007.—Associated Press.

STAR

2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

—TO-DAY ONLY—

"THIS GUN FOR HIRE"

Starring Allan LADD & Veronica LAKE

TO-MORROW ONLY

"THE FLEET'S IN"

Starring Dorothy Lamour & William Holden

COMMENCING SATURDAY

"ARSENIC & OLD LACE"

Starring CARY GRANT

with Raymond Massey & Priscilla Lane

Harriman Explains Stop-gap Aid's Value To U.S. Export Trade

Washington, Nov. 12.—The United States Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Averell Harriman, declared here today that the proposed \$597,000,000 stop-gap aid to France, Italy and Austria would stop the downward trend in United States exports.

In the third day of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on proposed United States aid to Western Europe, Mr. Harriman told Congressmen

that the United States exports flow has slumped from an annual rate of \$13,000,000,000 in the second quarter of this year to an annual rate of less than \$11,000,000,000 in the third quarter.

He claimed that exports in the last quarter would not decrease any further, but, with the help of new funds, they would go up again in the first quarter of 1948.

Producing facts and figures to back his assertion that the United States could, without great difficulty, fulfil deliveries which the aid programme contemplated, Mr. Harriman pointed out that current coal exports were only equivalent to 3.5 percent of the total production.

He admitted that it was not yet certain how successful the domestic grain conservation programme would be, but insisted that America was protecting herself against any undue drain by a system of allocations and export licences.

British Coal Production

Mr. Harriman declared that, in the same way, deliveries of fertilisers would eventually rebound to the benefit of the United States by speeding the day when European agriculture became more self-sufficient and the demand on American production would be relieved.

"I feel confident that the requirements of these countries can be substantially met," he said. "In my judgment, the alternatives to meeting them are such as vastly to outweigh the supply difficulties which they may present."

When Senator Tom Connolly (Democrat, Texas) referred to British coal production, Mr. Harriman said that the lack of competition, even before nationalisation, was largely responsible for inefficiency in the industry.

Britain had been able to sell coal profitably abroad largely as a result of exploitation of miners, he said. Labour reforms and technical improvements might now, however, enable the industry to play an adequate role in European recovery.

"The British are buckling down to their problem and would not be inclined to sell Britain short," he said.

Confusion In Midwest

Senator Alexander Wiley (Republican) said that in the mind of many people in the Midwest, considerable confusion existed as to the necessity for European aid and its effect upon domestic economy. Mr. Harriman replied that food collection from French farms was not as high as it might be. Despite the French Government's efforts, too much grain was being fed to livestock to enable farmers to benefit from blackmarket meat prices.

Senator Wiley then asked: "Do you think American feeding of Frenchmen will be an incentive to French farmers?" Mr. Harriman said that United States aid should assist France back to normalcy, which would include normal agricultural practices. Interim aid would bring no more than sustenance to the French and Italian peoples.—Reuter.

TRIBUTE TO CANADA AND HER PREMIER

Brussels, Nov. 12.—Prime Minister Mackenzie King personally and Canada as a nation last night received tributes of unreserved admiration from one of the most distinguished diplomatic gatherings which have ever assembled in this famous capital.

It was a state dinner by the Belgian Government at which Premier Paul Henri Spaak presided. The brilliant array of diplomats included representatives of countries of Europe, Asia, South Africa and the Americas.

Dr. Spaak said that his remarks, which he addressed to a "statesman whose wisdom and experience are universally admired," were designed as a double compliment to Canada and to Mr. King himself.

He paid Belgium's tribute to Canada for its steadfastness in the war and its comfort and aid to the Belgian people in their dark hours. Canada shared with Belgium, he said, the right to democracy, respect for human personality and willingness to play a maximum part in international conferences on behalf of peace.

Reason To Be Proud

The Belgian Prime Minister then told Mr. King: "Our fellow citizens have reason to be proud of you, and you, Mr. Prime Minister, have the right to be satisfied with what you have done to place yourself in a foremost position."

"You have met and solved a very difficult problem created by the war with such a combination of audacity and wisdom that Canada was soon examples, and when the peace for which you have so valiantly fought was restored you have succeeded in the difficult task of reconversion better than any other country."—United Press.

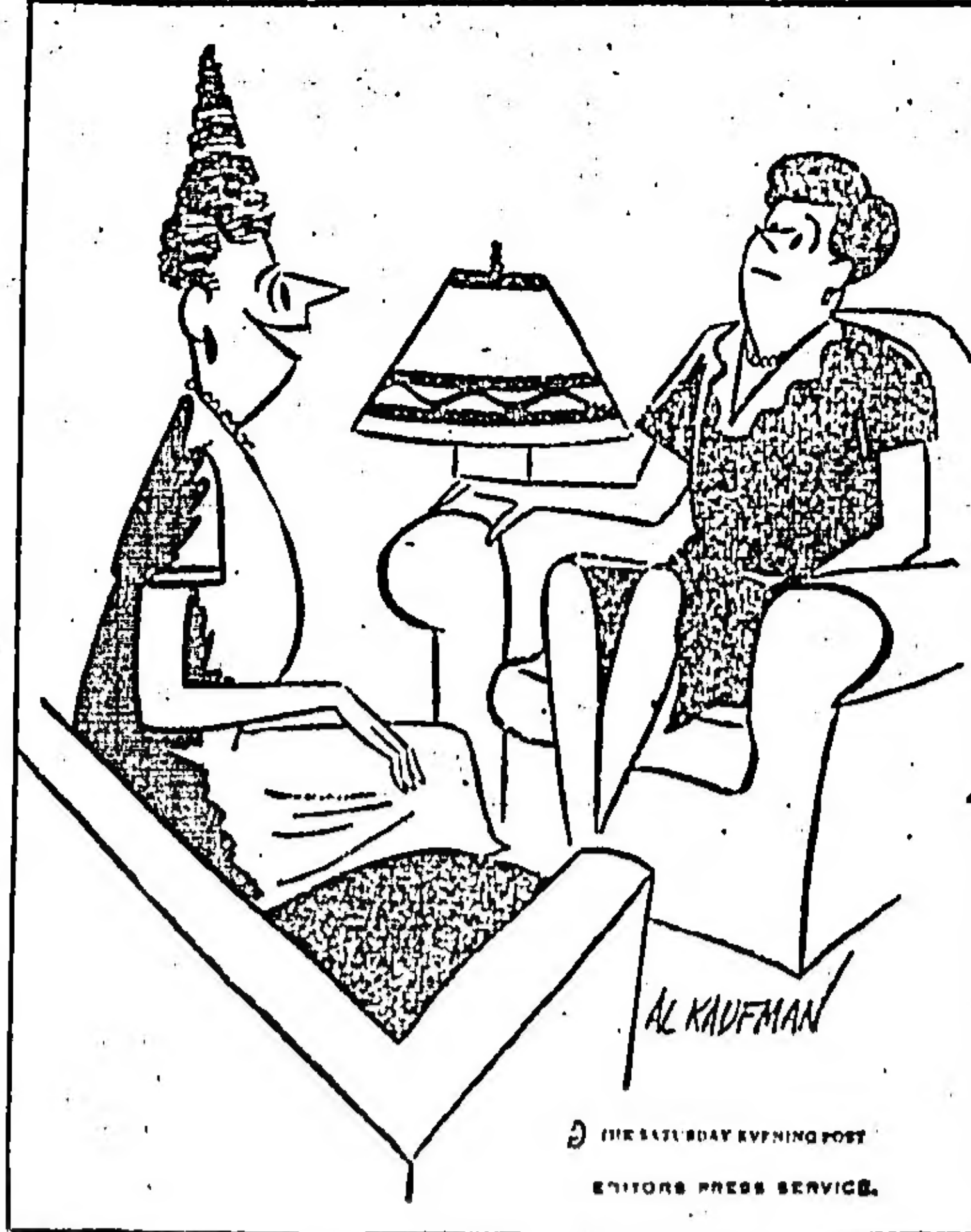
WEDDING REHEARSAL

London, Nov. 12.—Princess Elizabeth has a date today with her eight bridesmaids at Buckingham Palace for a private dress rehearsal for her wedding.

They will try on their dresses to see themselves as the 2,000 lucky guests will see them in Westminster Abbey on the great day. As it is considered unlucky for the bride to wear her wedding dress before the day, a few stitches of the hem will be left unfinished. After the rehearsal, it will be stitched up and will hang untouched until the wedding morning.

Before the scissors were put into the material for the wedding dress, an enormous amount of research and ground work had to be done. Sample panels of the needlework had to be submitted to the Princess for approval. These will be treasured as souvenirs.

Like the gown, the wedding shoes will be worn only once.—Reuter.



DEPUTIES WANT AUSTRIA TREATY TOP ON AGENDA

London, Nov. 12.—France, Britain and the United States suggested that the Austrian peace treaty should be placed at the top of the agenda for the coming meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers when the deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers met in London today.

The British and French counter-proposals to the Soviet suggestion for the agenda today were almost exactly the reverse of the order of discussion proposed by the Soviet deputy.

Apart from placing Austria at the head of the list, Britain and France proposed that discussion of economic principles for Germany should precede that relating to her political organisation.

The United States draft agenda will be submitted tomorrow by the American deputy, Mr. Robert Murphy, who, however, during today's meeting supported the view that the Soviet order for the agenda should be reversed.

Today's British draft, described not as the agenda but the "pattern for discussion at the Council of Foreign Ministers," was as follows: 1. Report of the Austrian treaty commission. 2. Economic principles, the level of German postwar industry and reparations plans, to include the inclusion of the Saar into French economy. 3. The form and scope of a provisional organisation for Germany. 4. The United States draft disarmament and demilitarisation treaty. 5. Each report of the deputies on the procedure for preparation of the German peace treaty. 6. Any other business.

A Single Whole

The acting British deputy explained that United Kingdom delegation considered that all German questions formed a single whole and should be discussed together. The Soviet deputy did not minimise the question of the Austrian

treaty. This was proved by the fact that he had included it among the items for discussion by the Foreign Ministers, but the Council of Foreign Ministers was meeting chiefly to consider the German problem, which it should certainly take first.

The deputies then passed on to the second item on their own agenda—the form and scope of the provisional organisation of Germany.

Here, discussion was again based on a Moscow document, already discussed by the Foreign Ministers last April.—Reuter.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. From a grass called citronella cultivated in Ceylon. 2. He painted it, often abbreviated to pinx. 3. The great giant tortoise. It may live 200 years. 4. In 1098 from Spain. 5. In 1936.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mail closes before 10 a.m., registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Closing Times By Air

Bangkok, 3.30 p.m.
Singapore, Colombo, Surabaya, Sydney and Auckland, 3.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Tsingtao and Peiping, 3.30 p.m.
Canton, Kowloon, Hankow and Nanking, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Canton (Train), 7 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 8 a.m.
Bangkok (Sea) 10 a.m.
Japan Ordinary Letters and Cards only (Sea) 10 a.m.
Bangkok (Sea) Noon.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 1 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 2 p.m.
Amoy (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin, Shekki & Kowloon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.
Manila, Mindanao, Surabaya & Batavia (Sea) 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Closing Times By Air
Canton and Amoy, 9.30 a.m.
Shanghai, 9.30 a.m.
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrain, Cairo (Nairobi), Johannesburg & Marcellus via Cairo, Augusta and London, 3.30 p.m.
Saiton and Fuku, 3.30 p.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsingtao and Peiping, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Canton and Chungking, 3.30 p.m.
Hankow, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Canton (Train), 7 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 8 a.m.
Swatow (Sea) 10 a.m.
Saiton (Sea) 10 a.m.
Colombo and Bombay (Sea) Noon.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 1 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Strails (Sea) 1 p.m.
Canada (Parcels only) via Vancouver, B.C. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Sydney (Sea) 5 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin, Shekki & Kowloon (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

12.20 p.m.—STUDIO: "Jazz Journal" Presented by Philip Burn; 7.00 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service: "ITMA" with Tommy Handley; 7.30 p.m.—STUDIO: "La Demi-Heure Francophone"; 8.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News; 10.15 p.m.—STUDIO: Religious Talk by the Rev. J. E. Sandhu; 11.00 p.m.—STUDIO: "This reminds me"—Presented by Nicki Lorraine; 11.00 p.m.—Mozart: Serenade "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik"; London Philharmonic; 9.15 p.m.—STUDIO: A Play: "There's no Accounting for Elephants" by Ursula Vaughan Williams; Produced by Harry Hargreaves; 9.45 p.m.—"We Sing for You" Lina Pagliughi (Soprano) & Al. Valentini (Tenor); 10.00 p.m.—Weather Report; 10.11 p.m.—"London Calling" March by Eric Coates; London Symphony Orchestra; 10.15 p.m.—London Relay: Jubilee Theatre Programme; A Radio Pageant of Plays & Players from 1922-1947. Programmes written by the distinguished Dramatist & Critic—St John Ervine; 11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

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Hungarian Leader Escapes

Stephenville, Newfoundland, Nov. 12.—The Hungarian anti-Communist leader, Zoltan Pfeiffer, today took off from here for the United States to plan with other Hungarians in exile a counter-attack against the enemies.

He travelled here incognito from Frankfurt, Germany, until the trans-Atlantic plane reached a point beyond which fuel would not allow it to turn back to Europe. Accompanying him is his wife and daughter and Laszlo Acsay, leader in Pfeiffer's Hungarian Independence Party, with his wife.

Mr Pfeiffer said: "I stayed in Hungary right up to the shadow of the noose. For three months my party was the only real opposition, but it was like playing cards with a man with pistol that shoots dum-dum bullets. I left without a spare shirt, and my family is without even a spare handkerchief."

Hunted By Police

Mr Pfeiffer said a company of Hungarian soldiers covered his escape. All reportedly tried to escape into the British zone of Austria.

He declined to say exactly how the escape was engineered because "hundreds of others are using the same route," but revealed the organisers passed him from village to village while car loads of secret Soviet and Hungarian police searched for him.

Mr Pfeiffer left after the Communist-dominated government obtained a warrant for his arrest, and was awaiting parliament to remove his immunity as a deputy before it was served. The government accused him of testifying to the good character of a man who later turned out to be a pro-Nazi.—United Press.

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HONGKONG BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

A meeting of badminton club representatives will be held in the Board Room, South China Morning Post Building, at 5.30 p.m. on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1947, to discuss arranging league and other Colony badminton tournaments for the 1947-48 season.

NOTICE

Messrs Spence, Robinson and Partners F.F. & A.R.I.B.A. Architects and Surveyors, have now moved to their new office, Room 611 Marina House, Queen's Rd.

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WOMEN TOO WILD TO HOLD!

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Produced by HARRY JOE BROWN

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GUNFIGHTERS

with RANDOLPH SCOTT and BARBARA BRITTON

in GUNCOLOR

Shanghai Bowlers Keep Interport Series Alive

(BY "VERITAS")

Shanghai kept the Interport lawn bowls series alive yesterday by winning the second of the three games 22-14 at the Craigengower Cricket Club. The visitors fully deserved to win because, man for man, they were just that much superior to U. M. Omar and his colleagues.

Drizzling rain from about the sixth hour made slow and more difficult a green that was never on the fast side. Yet, contrary to expectations, Shanghai adapted themselves to the conditions much more readily than did the Hongkong rink.

Tommy Main and Co., Ltd. for all time that ghost of a theory that Shanghai bowlers are only at their best on a fast green.

For Main the game was a personal triumph, inasmuch that he was paired against not only one of Hongkong's most skilful bowlers, but one who was very nearly at the top of his form. That Main not only held his own during the first tense 11 heads, but from then on was slightly superior, is sufficient testimony to his prowess, technically and psychologically.

THE TURNING POINT
Until the 18th head there was nothing to choose either between the rinks or the score. The lead had been won and lost alternately, with Shanghai leading 15-12 after the 17th.

During that period, leads, twos, threes and slips had each and all shared the limelight. Some heads had been extraordinarily good; others mediocre. But the atmosphere of excitement and tension was omnipresent.

The 18th head was the real turning point of the game. Freddie Madan, who by this time had taken full measure of a consistent Luz, laid a lovely first shot on the "kitty." Passos, who had been improving as the game progressed, proceeded to plant two woods around the first shot and the jack, and Gutierrez, who bowled very well throughout, came along with a nice counter.

U. M. Omar tried desperately to break up this head, but just failed and Shanghai went into a winning 10-12 lead, which they rubbed in by scoring a three on the last head.

COMPARISONS

It would be idle to pretend the Hongkong rink played up to expectations. They started off in grand style, but could not sustain the promise. Shanghai held on grimly and after the halfway stage had been reached, really started to turn on the fireworks.

Tommy Main was good from the first head and Gutierrez played twice as well as in the first of the Interport games. Passos continued his consistent form, and Madan was a pleasure to watch.

Luz, Hongkong's lead was brilliant in the early stages, but lost his touch as the green became heavier. Jackie Norrish only suggested glimpses of his known skill and K. M. Omar, bowling beautifully and according to orders over the first dozen heads, went right off and could do nothing right during the most crucial period of the match.

U. M. Omar, like his opposite number, was steadfast, and at times ingenious. But he had too much to carry. In the later stages of the match, being several times forced into a position where he had to try and save, instead of being able to consolidate.

After yesterday's display on a green that was not entirely true, and under tricky conditions, Shanghai must be conceded a 60-50 chance in the deciding game at Club de Recreio next Saturday—especially if Main keeps to the same rink.